



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF SERVICES TO THE AGING
LANSING

KARI SEDERBURG
DIRECTOR

State Advisory Council on Aging

November 6, 2013

Radisson Lansing at the Capitol
111 North Grand Avenue, Lansing, MI

MINUTES

Roll Call: Commissioner Michael Sheehan, Chair; Regina Allen; Nellie Blue; Alan Bond; Kellie Boyd; Lawrence Brooks; Vicente Castellanos; Charles Corwin; Kathleen Earle; Carl Field; Carrie Harnish; Thomas Hartwig; Lois Hitchcock; Elizabeth Ireland-Curtis; Mary Jones; Gerald McCole; Nicolette McClure; Roy Pentilla; Jean Peters; Gene Pisha; Mary Lou Proefrock; Alice Snyder, Vice Chair; Terry Vear; Susan Vick; Kathleen Williams-Newell; Richard Zeck, and John Zimmerman

Excused: Susy Avery; Gilbert Gauthier; Victoria Laupp; Grace Marshall; Pamela McKenna; John Murphy; John Pedit; and Ginny Wood-Broderick

Unexcused: Mary Lou Wolek

Guest Commissioner: Commissioner Michael Burri

OSA Staff: Kari Sederburg, Director; Wendi Middleton, Carol Stangel, Sally Steiner, and Lauren Swanson

Commissioner Michael Sheehan called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Carol Stangel called the roll. A quorum was present.

Recommended Actions:

Agenda: The State Advisory Council (SAC) approved the agenda as presented.

Minutes: The SAC approved the August 15, 2013, minutes as presented.

Introduction of Guest Commissioner: Commissioner Sheehan introduced Commissioner Michael Burri who is a new commissioner from Grand Rapids. Commissioner Burri explained that he is involved in supporting veterans and helped establish a veterans' foundation.

Commission Report: Commissioner Burri provided a brief report about the October Commission on Aging (CSA) meeting held in Detroit where the CSA approved a few grants. The CSA approved the submission of a letter to the Governor requesting the study of non-licensed assisted living, which was a result of a CSA sub-committee formed based on public hearing comments from employees of non-licensed assisted living homes, which occurred earlier in FY 2013.

State Advisory Council on Aging
November 6, 2013—Minutes
Page 2

OSA Report: Kari Sederburg, Director of the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging (OSA) reported that OSA is currently working with Governor Rick Snyder and the executive team on the FY 2015 OSA budget. The Governor supports increased funding for home delivered meals and in-home services. He is also interested in supporting efforts to extend elder abuse prevention initiatives.

As part of national caregiver month, OSA launched a caregiver campaign last week; the details may be found on the OSA website: Michigan.gov/osa. OSA is promoting new nutrition standards. OSA staff Sherri King is the lead on this initiative. At the November CSA meeting, OSA will be asking the CSA to consider allowing the Ombudsman program to move outside of state government through a formal request for proposal process. The Ombudsman program's ability to apply for other funding resources is hindered by being housed within OSA.

Kari announced that Commissioners Sheehan and Burri were reappointed by the Governor to the CSA. Kari also thanked OSA staff Lynne McCollum for her years of service working on legal service development and elder abuse prevention as she has taken a position outside of state government closer to her home. OSA will be posting Lynne's position soon.

The federal budget is approved through January 15, 2014. OSA was able to send 29 percent of OSA's FY 2014 budget out to the field. OSA can only give budget awards with funds that have been received. Fourteen thousand home delivered meals a day in Michigan are lost without the federal funding to support this service.

The federal government is currently reviewing the Older Americans' Act. They are considering enhancing senior centers and looking at moving the older worker program. OSA will send the SAC members information that has been shared with OSA.

Address to the State Advisory Council on Aging (SAC) members—SAC Chair, Commissioner Michael Sheehan: Commissioner Sheehan addressed the SAC regarding the roles of the CSA and the SAC. Commissioner Sheehan's comments are included verbatim below.

Address to SAC, November 6, 2013

We're about to go into a fallow season. We won't meet face-to-face again for four long months. But, I must encourage you not to flag in your duties as Advisory Council members. One of my duties and privileges as Chairman is to meet with a subcommittee to study applications and to vote on potential members. So I am privy to the information in your application forms. While there is a vast array of experience in this body, I have noticed four characteristics that recur across the board and stand out for all of you:

- Service to others
- Self-initiative
- Persistence
- Applied intelligence

State Advisory Council on Aging
November 6, 2013—Minutes
Page 3

I'd like to take a few minutes to highlight the significance of what you do as Advisory Council members, and to remind you how your work gets integrated into the total senior services picture. It all began with the Older Americans Act of 1965. That legislation established the Administration on Aging as the manager of federal funding distribution, and it required every state to establish an Office of Services to the Aging to receive and distribute funding for aging services.

The State of Michigan is divided into 16 regions, each one overseen by its own Area Agency on Aging. When Washington lets each state know the approximate amount of federal money that it can expect for the next fiscal year, each state's Office of Services to the Aging springs into action, applying a distribution formula to the money available. Each state can establish its own formula, but, by and large, they tend to be similar.

Our funding formula has four parts:

- (a) Percent of geographical area;
- (b) Number of persons 60+;
- (c) Number of persons 60+ with incomes at or below 150% of the poverty level; and
- (d) Older adults identified as minority.

Each regional Area Agency on Aging then sets up a tentative budget, using established guidelines. Each AAA submits its budget to the Office of Services to the Aging, and if necessary, adjustments are made. When the final version of each budget has been prepared, The Commission on Services to the Aging holds public hearings. All 16 AAA directors must present their budget and answer questions.

The principal role of the Commission, according to state law, is to approve these budgets. The 15 Commissioners, and no one else, have the final say. We do not create the budgets or try to influence them before the process has run its course of action. Fiscal oversight is our primary concern. But, the Commission has other duties, too, and this is where you come in.

400.584 Duties of commission.

Sec. 4. (1) The commission shall do all of the following:

- (a) Serve as an effective and visible advocate for aging and older persons in all government decisions.
- (b) Advise the governor, the legislature, and the office of services to the aging concerning the coordination and administration of state programs serving older persons.
- (c) Make recommendations to the governor and the legislature regarding changes in federal and state programs, statutes, and policies.
- (d) Advise the governor and legislature of the nature and magnitude of the priorities of aging and older persons.
- (e) Participate in the preparation of and approve the state plan and budget required by the older Americans act of 1965, 42 U.S.C. 3001 to 3058d, before submission of the plan to the federal administration on aging.
- (f) Review and approve grants to be made from state, federal, or other funds, which are administered by the office.
- (g) Review and advise the governor and the legislature on the state's policies concerning services to older persons.

State Advisory Council on Aging
November 6, 2013—Minutes
Page 4

(h) Participate in the development of and approve the statements and reports required in section 6(n).

(i) Designate planning and service areas and an agency, which shall be recognized as an area agency on services to the aging within each planning and service area.

(j) Establish a state advisory council under the direction of the commission. A member of the commission shall chair the state advisory council. The commission shall establish procedures for the selection of the council.

(k) Convene public meetings or hearings to identify and discuss issues or concerns relating to aging and older persons.

(l) Establish additional specialized advisory committees, as needed which shall be under the direction of the commission.

(m) Provide adequate and effective opportunities for aging and older persons to express their views on policy development and program implementation.

(n) Establish policies pertaining to implementation of federal and state statutes involving funds administered by the office.

(o) Establish a formula for funding the state and local or regional long-term care ombudsman programs. This formula shall be based on square miles, number of nursing homes, the number of nursing home beds, and the percentage of nursing home residents receiving Medicaid within the geographic area to be served.

This is where you play a major role. You are the research arm of the Commission. The Commission picks out a pressing concern each year or two and asks you to thoroughly research it. What you learn goes into a formal report issued by the Office of Services to the Aging. It is presented to the Commission, and in turn, it gets sent to the Governor and to state legislators.

We are about to go into a winter recess, but we ask you to carry your duties home with you. We depend on your intelligence, your concern for seniors, your dedication, and your work ethic in order to produce a clear and useful report. Later today, Wendi Middleton will tell you later about the mechanism for keeping the work going during the winter months. I, and all the other Commissioners, thank you for the work that you do for us and for the aging citizens of Michigan.

Introduction of a new SAC member: Commissioner Sheehan also introduced new SAC member, Elizabeth Ireland-Curtis from Flint who is a retired medical social workers. Ms. Ireland-Curtis is currently assisting people with adult literacy.

Announcement: Wendi Middleton explained that the SAC will be reimbursed with 2013 rates. The 2011 reimbursement rates listed as "2011" are correct—the year listed is wrong.

Old Business: Wendi Middleton reviewed the overall goal of the SAC to create a tool for "Boomers" to use to plan, to create a publicity campaign about the aging network and its resources, and to work on key issues that impact "Boomers," which were discussed at the August meeting. She recognized SAC member Terry Vear for developing the acronym F.O.C.U.S. to represent the five workgroups that the SAC will be forming today to address the following key issues: Financial Planning (Aspects?), Options Counseling, Caregiving, Understanding Aging, and Support Services.

State Advisory Council on Aging
November 6, 2013—Minutes
Page 5

Following, Wendi reviewed the next steps for the SAC to review and to brainstorm the F.O.C.U.S. issues; this was completed by noon.

Workgroup Discussion: SAC members met in their F.O.C.U.S. groups and brainstormed to choose three issues/topics that each workgroup plans to address/prioritize, and to discuss whether the workgroup needs information or expert advice in order to move forward. Following, each workgroup chose the dates to conference in December, January, and February in order to report at the next SAC meeting in March. Workgroup recommendations (issue areas to be studied) are attached to the minutes. Full flip chart notes document each workgroup's discussion, which will be sent to workgroup members.

Wendi Middleton thanked the SAC members for attending and contributing to the meeting. Commissioner Sheehan also thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

Next meeting: The SAC will meet Thursday, March 20, 2013, at 9:30 a.m. at the Radisson Hotel in Lansing.